



PARENT PARTNERSHIP MEETING – THURSDAY 9 MAY 2019

NB: Below is a summary of points made/discussed in this Parent Partnership Meeting. The school's responses to the various points are in bold and italics.

The meeting was held with specifically invited parents to represent all year groups, genders, etc. to discuss the experience parents have received regarding the academic reports that are sent home; what works with them and what be done to improve. We are about to redesign our website and so also asked for any feedback on our website so that it can be made more effective for parents.

Website

1. Contact details

- by Department/Pastoral
- regularly updated
- clear
- roles and responsibilities

The above will be addressed with the website redesign due in September 2019

2. Absence

- Contact details (phone number and email) for reporting student absence made easier to find under the 'contact' section of the website
- Positive feedback received about Attendance/Medical staff

This is available but will be made more prominent

3. Trips

- Details to be updated regularly

The new trip "Blogs" have been successful and will continue

4. Scheme of Work/Curriculum

- Details on website – ***in place but we will make this more prominent***
- Resources (eg text books) – information given out at parents' evenings

5. Seneca (online revision tool) – students find it very useful and a very positive experience for revision purposes

6. Remove picture of Mr Jones on website under Governance - *actioned*

Assessment



1. Can HGSS extend targets if students are meeting them? ***This could be done, but target setting is done on a whole-school basis, from either KS2, or KS4 results. A balance has to be struck between making targets aspirational, but also achievable whilst catering for a wide-range of learners. We will keep this under review, but no change is planned at present.***
2. Students are not homogenous and not all will be motivated by high grade targets.
3. Key is for parents to talk to their child. ***The school is working on how reports can be made more effective. We are trialling with year 7, students being shown how to read their own reports and set them targets. We hope to put some models of this up on our website soon.***
4. Report frequency is regular and useful
5. Big change from primary- very impersonal at senior school as parents are far less involved
6. Early year 7 event each September is welcomed with information about targets and data. ***We will keep this meet and greet event going.***
7. Attitude To Learning on report is informative
8. Report doesn't capture the whole child. ***We do not plan to move to comment reports as the time is thought more effectively spent by teachers putting on additional support sessions.***
9. Parents' Evenings are much better split. ***We intend to continue with two dates for each year group's Parents' Evenings as the majority of parents are in favour of this.***
10. SIMs achievement points
 - Need detail/comment – i.e. which teacher they have come from
 - Subject points have come from, or
 - Initials of teachers to be included? ***The school will ask teachers to do this in the short-term, but we have logged this issue with our software provider and they are working on a fix for this problem.***
11. PSHCE – needs to recognise achievements of students – ***A PSHCE section on student reports will be done from September 2019 for years 7-9.***
12. Show my Homework – notifications useful. ***In the Year 7 meet and greet evening we will show all new parents how to set up these notifications to come through on their smart phones.***
13. Much better communications in Year 11 regarding work students expected to do, etc.
14. Good support across Year 11
15. Study leave – helpful for parents to know about so arrangements can be made. ***As a school it is our preference to keep the study leave date quiet, in order for students to get the most out of their lessons up until the point they leave. This is reviewed on a year by year basis and is dependent on the exam dates, the cohort and how prepared teachers feel students are.***
16. Can HGSS consider half a day back after year 11 have finished their exams? For books/shirts etc/bbq. ***We have discussed this idea, but as quite a few students arrange to go on holiday with their families straight after their last exam, it would not be the whole year group. Year 11 students also have their prom where they can celebrate with their whole year group.***



17. Rank order – support for how we rank students, needs to be explained to all parties further. **We will do another round of assemblies on this. Form tutors have been through this already with their tutors, but we will get this done again. We will look to produce a parent explanation.**
18. Can it be ranked by deciles/bands?
19. Can the rank order be added to the report? **We will look to see how this can be done, whilst also keeping the reports concise and in an easier to interpret format.**

AOB

Student Planner – Not used. What is the point of it when the homework is on show my homework? **We will continue to use planners as it is an important skill that students can organise their own work schedules and plan how they can meet a series of deadlines. The planner should also be a communication tool between the parent and form tutor/vice versa.**

Future Parent Partnership Meetings

- Governors to be involved in advance, e.g. representation to each one. **The dates of the next meetings will be shared with governors.**
- Parents invited to partnership meetings – how is this done? **We have used a new format for this year. Each partnership meeting has focused on a specific part of our school improvement plan. The assistant headteacher, or person in charge of that area has then organised a selection of parents who will hopefully provide a range of experiences and viewpoints, to enable us to further improve.**
- Is the information feedback to governors. **The information from these meetings is uploaded to the website and discussed in the relevant governor sub-committees. However, we will email it out electronically to governors going forward.**